March 8, 1998

Acting Commissioner Jane Henney, M.D. FDA 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Dr. Henney:

Given the dangers to human health of rBGH, I urge you to immediately suspend Monsanto's license to sell rBGH. As you know, Canada's counterpart of the FDA has found rBGH far less innocuous than the FDA did. If fair tests could prove rBGH safe, then let it be permitted again. Consider these vital issues the FDA has not investigated:

- 1. Increased levels of cell-stimulating insulin-like growth factors (IGF), apparently identical to those in humans, in rBGH milk. A cause of premature growth in infants and colon and breast cancer in women?
- 2. rBGH can create stress in cows leading to lowered immunity and more bacterial infections, meaning more antibiotics, passing into milk, and eventually antibiotic resistant infections in humans. Also, suppressed immunity could activate latent viruses such as bovine leukemia and bovine immunodeficiency viruses which may be infectious to humans.
- 3. Contamination of milk with steroids and adrenaline-like stresssor chemicals induced by rBGH.
- 4. Cancer caused by carcinogenic contaminants like dioxins and pesticides mobilized from fatty tissue into milk by rBGH.

I urge you to put human life ahead of corporate profits and ban the manufacture and sale, both domestic and export of rBGH until complete impartial investigations have resolved all health issues.

I would appreciate hearing your response to my concerns on this vital issue.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

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